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Author 'unpacks' his library

Page 5



Panthers survive late push from Cougars

Page 8

CITY



New County Market upgraded, with higher energy efficiency

By Kathryn Richter
City Editor

Charleston's County Market will be moving to a new location that boasts a newer design, higher energy efficiency and wireless Internet, as well as a more student-friendly atmosphere.

Gerry Kettler, the director of consumer affairs and the company spokesperson for County Market's parent company, Niemann Foods, Inc., said the company believed Charleston was ready for the new building.

"It was time for an updated, state-of-the-art facility," Kettler said.

The new building will boast two stories, the top story featuring a mezzanine equipped with wireless Internet, caffeine and comfortable seating.

Joyce Lawrence, a resident of Charleston and a frequent County Market shopper, said she is excited about the new building.

"I think the new store is great," Lawrence said, "I'm anxious to see the coffee shop and deli."

The success of the County Market in Champaign, that also featured the student-friendly updates, was one of the factors in the decision to update Charleston's County Market, Kettler said.

"The student population is an important part of the consideration for our stores," Kettler said. "Our goal is to provide the best supermarket shopping experience in the area."

Kettler said the new seating area that boasts its own Caribou Coffee and a new deli, would be the ideal place for students to take a study break and will also be a popular place around finals time.

Irene Coon of Charleston said she is at the current County Market all the



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

A construction worker on the new County Market prepares to make his way down from where he and other workers laid sheet metal on the roof Monday. The new location is expected to open by the end of the month.

time and is looking forward to a larger produce selection.

Coon said she also believes the new coffee shop will be good for customers.

"People (might) want to get together while shopping," Coon said.

The new County Market store will be more environmentally friendly than its predecessor by using LED light bulbs, more natural light and energy-efficient cases and compressors, Kettler said.

Kettler said the new environmentally friendly measures is not only more cost efficient, but it is also better for business.

Jeff Deaville, union sheet metal worker, of Tolono, said the construction of the new building got off to a slow start.

Deaville, who has been working on the new County Market building for the past month, said the sheet metal workers had a late start to the project because the structure had not been built.

Deaville said the workers are now ahead of schedule, as the opening date of the new store is getting closer.

Kathryn Richter can be reached at 581-2812 or kjrichter@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS

Maps provided at Pantherpalooza

By Rachel Rodgers
Administration Editor

Instead of getting lost in a maze of tables, students will have a map to guide them during the second Spring Pantherpalooza where more than 112 registered student organizations will meet.

The second Spring Pantherpalooza is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Kaci Abolt, the student vice president for student affairs, said the map will show students where each numbered table is, and a scrolling PowerPoint will be projected to identify what number each organization is.

"There will also be a large board outside of the room with table numbers and each organization will write what table they are at," Abolt said.

Abolt, a junior communication studies major, said she thinks participation outside of the academic realm is also important.

"I think involvement is a huge part of how to make your college career come full circle with the academic and social connections that you can gain, which can really make your experiences stand out from others," Abolt said.

Student Senate member Mitchell Gurick, a freshman career and tech-

nology education major, said Pantherpalooza can be hectic with students combing through the tables trying to find organizations they are interested in.

"The map and the PowerPoint will give students a better idea of where certain organizations are that they want to visit and (makes it) easier to communicate with them," Gurick said. "It is important because (Pantherpalooza) allows students to get a feel for what different RSOs have to offer, and RSOs get the opportunity to showcase their achievements and share their goals with others."

In addition to making it easier for students to locate organizations, bingo cards will be available with information from the organizations, Abolt said.

"To try and attract more people, I am also sending an email out to all of the new students who came to Eastern in the fall and in the spring to let them know that (Pantherpalooza) is going on," Abolt said.

Abolt said Pantherpalooza is for all students who want to get involved.

"This event is not specifically targeted at new students but it will be an extra incentive for them since they are probably still trying to get their feet wet with campus involvement."

MAPS, page 5

DEATH

Recent graduate dies in car crash

By Samantha Bilharz
Managing Editor

A former Eastern student died on New Year's Day in a car accident, when her 2002 Saturn hit a utility pole.

Julie Elizabeth Berls died of blunt trauma and was pronounced dead on the scene when responders arrived.

The single-car accident that took Berls' life occurred at approximately 3:45 a.m. in Campton Hills.

The 22-year-old just graduated from Eastern on Dec. 17, 2011 with a degree in elementary education.

Campton Hills Police Chief Dan Hoffman described Berls' death as "a brutal accident."

"She lost control of the car. Why, we don't know," Hoffman said.

He said Berls was not wearing a seat belt and she was the only one in the car.

Hoffman said he does not know what caused the accident.

"It could have been speed, it could have been a deer, or other things, but we don't know because there were no witnesses," Hoffman said.

An autopsy was not conducted because Berls' injuries were so significant.

Blood tests are currently being con-



JULIE BERLS

ducted to determine whether alcohol or drugs were involved in the crash. Hoffman said these results will not be back for a couple weeks.

Berls was born on March 10, 1989 and was a resident of St. Charles.

In her spare time, Berls enjoyed horseback riding.

Berls is survived by her parents and brother Kevin.

Samantha Bilharz can be reached at 581-2812 or denmanaging@gmail.com.

EIU weather

TODAY

WEDNESDAY



Mostly Sunny
High: 55°
Low: 36°



Partly Cloudy
High: 52°
Low: 30°

For more weather visit castle.eiu.edu/weather.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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CITY



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Beverly Herr, general manager, owner and the drink and menu designer of Dirty's Bar & Grill, mixes her newest drink, the Mint Chip Hopper, for a customer Monday at the restaurant. Dirty's offers more than 20 versions of a martini in addition to other beverages.

Dirty's brings diverse food, drinks

Expanding menu includes new items, lunch specials

By Kathryn Richter
City Editor

The bright purple walls, roomy seating and designer drinks that Dirty's Bar & Grill offers is not what comes to mind when one thinks of a bar in a small college town.

Beverly Herr, general manager, owner and the drink and menu designer of Dirty's Bar & Grill, said she felt Charleston lacked diversity when it came to the food industry.

"The town really needed somewhere to go out to eat," Herr said.

Although Eastern students are a big part of the clientele at Dirty's, Herr said most of the

regulars are residents of Charleston.

Larry and Melody McGrath of Charleston said they are weekly patrons of the restaurant because of how much they like the food and drinks.

"We love it," Melody said. "It's one of the best things to come to Charleston in I don't know how long."

Most bars and restaurants that cater to the college crowd are often left empty once students return home for breaks, but Herr said Dirty's did not suffer the same fate.

"It was a lot slower and the town is really quiet," Herr said, but she said there were still certain nights when Dirty's was packed.

Herr said she is hoping to incorporate fundraising with the restaurant in the future and is looking for different charity opportunities.

Dirty's has only been open since late October, but Herr said

"It's one of the best things to come to Charleston in I don't know how long."

Melody McGrath, Charleston resident

she had been planning the restaurant since the middle of September.

Herr said the idea of the fresh, never frozen food, as well as their signature food and drinks made from scratch, is almost unprecedented in the restaurant industry.

Dirty's is currently working on expanding the menu to include newer items as well as new lunch specials, Herr said.

Herr also said she has heard some people complain about the higher prices of Dirty's food and drinks, but said the reason the prices may be higher is because of the quality of the food that

Dirty's offers.

Dirty's also offers a lunch menu every day until 4 p.m. that include cheaper meals that are often smaller in portion size but offer the same quality of food as the higher priced meals.

"You're really getting what you pay for," she said. "You don't know how bad the food you're eating is, until you eat something better."

Kathryn Richter can be reached at 581-2812 or kjrichter@eiu.edu.

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THE PENALTY BOX

BAR & GRILL

UNIVERSITY BOARD

UB strives to reach new audience spring semester

By Samantha McDaniel
Activities Editor

Darius White, the University Board chair, said the organization wants to continue to focus on reaching a diverse group of students while providing each person with entertainment.

Some of the activities that are scheduled for this semester include a number of speakers, student competitions, performances and an “Up All Night.”

The “Flashback Friday” themed night will take place from 7-11 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom, University Union and the Bridge Lounge of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union on Jan. 20.

“We will have everything from inflatable to novelty giveaways,” White said.

The University Board will also have a number of speakers to talk with students this semester.

These topics will consist of someone talking about the Illuminati on Feb. 23.

The Illuminati is a supposedly secret society with ties to many historical and current figures.

“That is a topic that students, and people in general, find very interesting,” White said. “They are not sure what the Illuminati, or a secret society, is and what it stands for, so just to get more information about that will be interesting.”

White said there are also many competitive events that the University Board has scheduled for this semester.

The University Board will have a Battle of the Bands on Jan. 26, where bands will be competing to



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the dance group Rhythm and Xtacy perform March 7, 2011, during the EIU Best Dance Crew competition in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The University Board has various new and traditional events scheduled for the semester, including the new Best Dance Crew competition on April 18.

be the top band on campus.

The second Eastern's Best Dance Crew competition will also take place April 18.

White said he thinks students like the competitive events because students packed the Grand Ballroom in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union during Eastern's Best Dance Crew last year.

“It's fun just to have the bragging

right to say you are Eastern's best dance crew for a year,” White said.

Along with the new events are the annual events that take place.

These events will continue to include weekend movies that are played Friday and Saturday nights at 6 p.m. in the Buzzard Auditorium, comedians at least two Tuesdays a month, and a monthly open mic night on the last Wednesday.

This semester some of these events will be focused on a certain topic, such as Black History Month or Women's Heritage Month.

These events include comedian Arvin Mitchell for Black History Month on Feb. 7. There will also be a ladies' night out event with comedian Cristela Alonzo on March 27.

White said they try to schedule their events to give students a break

from their classes.

“We try our best to continue to be an outlet of enjoyment as well as to educate students on different topics,” White said.

Samantha McDaniel can be reached at 581-2812 or slmcdaniel@eiu.edu.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Jazz minor slow to attract students

By Robin Dexter
Campus Editor

Last semester, the music department introduced a jazz studies minor to Eastern's curriculum and the Council on Academic Affairs approved the minor on Nov. 10, 2011.

It is now officially an option this semester, although no students have declared it yet.

According to the Department of Music's proposal, the minor was designed to address the needs of music education majors and students in the general university population with an interest in jazz.

The proposal was presented to committees such as the CAA and the college curriculum committee after being approved by the Department of Music.

The jazz studies minor is a 23 credit hour program made up of applied study, music theory, aural training, jazz studies courses, jazz ensembles and electives.

Sam Fagaly, the director of jazz studies, said students can begin working towards the minor beginning this semester.

“Some jazz studies majors already have many of the requirements for the minor,” he said.

Many of these students will only have to take a few more courses to

complete before they could graduate with the jazz studies minor, Fagaly said.

He said the department professors have started promoting the minor, but they will have to wait and see how many students declare it.

“Some of my students were considering the minor, but found out they would have to be here another semester to complete it,” said Fagaly.

He said many of these students are too close to student teaching and meeting graduation requirements to stay another semester and finish for the minor requirements.

Fagaly said he thinks underclassmen will be more likely to adapt the minor than upperclassmen because of the extra time it takes.

The jazz studies minor is open to all students majoring in music, and other Eastern students may be accepted as well after passing an audition.

Aaron Eckert, a junior jazz studies major, said the jazz studies minor is a great addition to the department.

Although he personally is not pursuing the minor, he said the minor will provide a good opportunity for music education students.

“It's another good thing to add to your diploma and resume,” he said.

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CAMPUS

Syllabus week kicks off with homework, tests

Chemistry, other majors receive heavier workload

By Robyn Dexter
Campus Editor

Syllabus week is well under way.

Students have been to their first few classes and gotten a feel for how their semester will play out.

Many students may expect their first week to be easy and not do any real work besides reading the syllabus, but some professors are not as easygoing and jump right into the material.

Depending on the courses and the major, syllabus week for many students is nothing but a myth.

Logan Hurst is not having a typically easy syllabus week like some other majors.

Hurst, a junior chemistry major, said many chemistry students do not have as easy of a syllabus week as many other majors.

“In my Biochemistry II class, we reviewed chemical bonds and structures, and in my Quantum Chemistry class we reviewed physics principles,” he said.

Hurst also said he has a seminar in

a few weeks where he has to give a 20 minute presentation on a chemistry article.

However, he said he is optimistic about this week.

“I don't let syllabus week stress me out too bad, it's a long semester,” he said.

Miranda Meneghetti, a junior finance major, said her classes Monday were not as bad as she expected.

“We just had an overview of the class and the syllabus,” she said.

Meneghetti said although her first few classes didn't seem too intimidating, she has a friend that is less fortunate.

“She told me one of her professors assigned homework over break that was due this week,” she said.

Her friend found out over WebCT and had to work ahead to be ready for the first week of classes.

Kaycee Spinner, a senior family and consumer sciences major, also had some homework assigned her first day.

“We have some reading to do and we have to write out questions for next class for discussion,” she said.

Lauren VanHyning, a senior biological sciences major, said some of her professors already started teaching material on Monday.

“We went over some introductory subjects,” she said.

Since she is a senior, her classes are mainly narrowed down to ones that she enjoys.

“I think this semester is going to be one of my easiest because I like all of my classes for the most part,” VanHyning said.

Kayla Gerst, a junior athletic training major, said syllabus week is not looking too easy for her.

“I already have homework in my Chemistry II class,” said Gerst.

She said her professor even gave the class online work.

Gerst said she will begin her required athletic training clinicals this week.

“(We) have to be dressed appropriately and be prepared on certain types of injuries we will encounter,” she said.

Gerst said she and other students will be receiving instructions from their Approved Clinical Instructors, or ACIs.

Donnie Butzen, a junior sport management major, said his classes on Monday simply included going over the syllabus.

“I don't think (my classes are) going to be too hard, just time consuming,” Butzen said.

Robyn Dexter can be reached at 581-2812 or redexter@eiu.edu.

STAFF EDITORIAL

MAP Grant survives trip to guillotine

There's some good news and some bad news regarding the Illinois MAP Grant. Which is to say, there is one piece of somewhat good news and quite a bit of bad news.

The good news is, thanks to a last-minute bill passed during the fall veto session and signed by Gov. Pat Quinn, the maximum award amount will only be reduced by 5 percent. The bill freed up \$33.5 million in funds that were already reserved for student financial aid, according to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, which administers the MAP Grant.

It is a kind of progress, at least. Last year, the Assembly did nothing to cover the self-imposed shortfall and awards were reduced for the spring and summer semesters. When the legislature failed to act, Eastern used its waiver budget to cover the reductions for its students.

The bad news? The State of Illinois still owes Eastern \$11.1 million in MAP Grant appropriations for fiscal year 2012.

That's a hefty chunk of change to a small university like Eastern, but it will make it through these hard times, as it always has.

What's troubling is the trend this represents in the Illinois Assembly. The state has been in constant debt to Eastern for more than a year. This is the third year in a row the Assembly has cut the maximum award amount.

We understand the severity of Illinois' budget problems and know that hard decisions have to be made to get the state on the right path. But cutting student aid is a short-term fix that will only exacerbate long-term problems.

The MAP Grant is a vital resource for students in financial need. The maximum award covers about a quarter of a student's direct costs at Eastern. Without it, many students would have to take out private student loan to afford an Eastern education (and Eastern is a comparatively affordable education).

Cutting MAP Grants only pushes more debt onto the burdened backs of Illinois graduates.

Of course, the less people can afford a college education in Illinois, the less they will receive one. College graduates have the lowest unemployment rate, so keeping people out of college means keeping our unemployment rate nice and high.

Also, simply not delivering funding doesn't much improve the quality of state universities. We have often lauded Eastern administrators for their ability to do so much for the students, campus and community with such a meager bank roll. Imagine if their hands were untied, if they could work without wondering if and when the university will receive the funding it should be able to count on.

One last piece of good news: students who think the state ought to properly fund its universities can call their legislator and let them know. If they don't care about your education, vote for someone who will.

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COLUMN

Texting in school? Look like a tool, end up a fool

Like clockwork, each semester, students shuffle into the classroom and labs and before the professor has a chance to drone on about whatever subject he or she teaches, the cell phone comes out.

I, too, have been a classroom texting offender. It was in high school with my first cell phone—a blue-and-silver flip phone—when I first perfected the art of boot hiding (hiding my phone in the leg of my boot).

While my mother, an eighth-grade special education teacher, would probably have been disappointed—my friends were impressed.

I was able to respond to them within minutes of receiving their texts (thanks to my speedy Verizon Wireless service), but I knew that my exponentially better skills at Tetris and one-handed texting came at a price.

Whether it was my inability to locate Norway on a map or properly understand the quadratic equation, I was invalidating my education by 'ROFL-ing' over the phone.

But with age came maturity, a new cell phone plan, an Android-capable touch phone and the realization that nothing is more annoying in a classroom than someone's phone ringing or the distinctive clinking of thumbs hitting a keypad.

Especially when I am trying to focus. Words with Friends is a great intellectual game, but if a minimum 50-minute every-oth-



Nike Ogunbodede

er-day class is really that detrimental to your well being, then maybe those Education Connection commercials are speaking to you.

This isn't high school. You didn't have to come to Eastern and if you can't make it through a class without looking at your cell phone then you might have a cellular addiction.

This is a real phenomenon and, yes, I used to be just like you.

Sometimes you get so bored that your hand—of its own accord—snakes its way into your pants and starts texting everyone and anyone in your contact list.

All the text messages are initially the same, with a simple "Hey," "I'm so bored" and the truly inspired, "Whacha doin'?"

All of these statements lack creativity, but can lead to at least an hour of back-and-forth texts ending with the question, "What you want to eat for lunch?"

I'm not exactly sure when reaching for my cell phone took precedence over listening to a lecture or drawing in my spiral. And while I know MySpace and Facebook have something to do with our generation's—or at least my own—insistent need to be in touch with reality, I know it can only lead to our eventual downfall.

Because if we were all honest with ourselves then we would realize that sitting through a lecture is the largest form of security we have nowadays.

The world, frankly, is not getting any better and I don't care who wins this year's Nov. 6 election, I don't foresee it getting better by the time I'm 30.

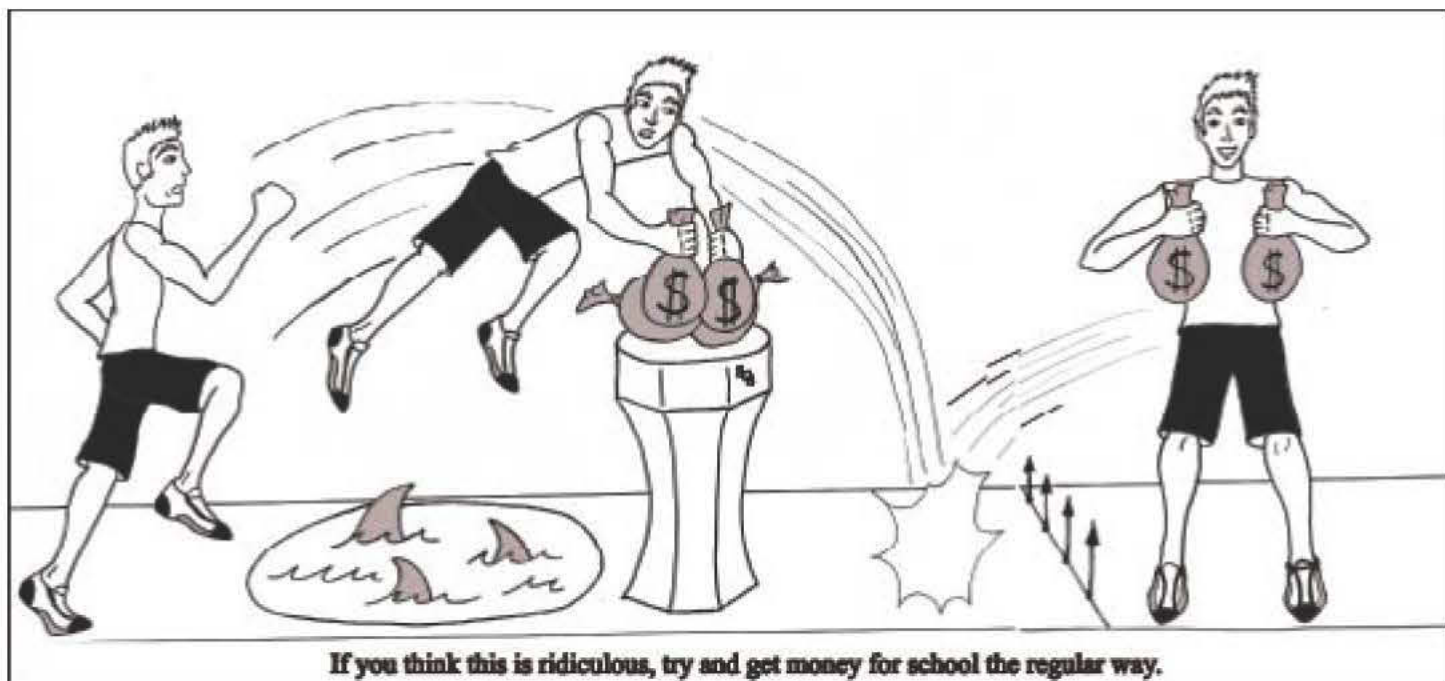
I'd rather get up every day for my 9 a.m. class in Coleman or Buzzard Hall than spend the rest of my life at some dead-end job because I spent too much time playing Angry Birds.

If Hermione Granger taught me anything throughout our 10 years of friendship, it's that if you want to exceed expectations you need put in your full attention.

So turn off your cell phone. And if you can't manage that yet then just put it on silent.

Nike Ogunbodede is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



If you think this is ridiculous, try and get money for school the regular way.

SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

AROUND THE STATE

If I die, may I be forever preserved on Facebook

By Addie CaDavid
 Daily Vidette
 Illinois State University

If Facebook was a country it would have the fifth largest population in the world. About 80 million users are constantly updating photos, statuses, information, likes, relationship statuses and friendships. Well, at least the ones who are alive are, for now.

It's a seriously depressing subject but I also think it's really interesting, because we are the first generation that will handle death in a completely different way from those who came before.

For those of us who have had a Facebook since 16, when we die, that will be almost our entire lifetime recorded online. We will be the first to not only think about a burial versus cremation, but how our social networking sites are handled in a transition from active to archived.

Before this, memories of people were available through home videos, photos and maybe some newspaper clippings or a hidden diary.

Everything we have put online, the 2 million tweets posted every day, the 90 pieces of

content Facebook users share daily and the 48 hours of YouTube videos uploaded every minute are indefinite pieces of information.

This digital archive is already being looked into by several services. The Facebook application "If I Die" allows its users to record their last requests, words of wisdom, life story or some words to impart with loved ones.

After recording your message the application has you choose three close Facebook friends that will act as trustees and who will need to all confirm your death before the message is released.

Another website called 1000memories.com allows for pictures and video files to be posted to the site as a collective archive of the deceased.

Like the "If I Die" application, this is using technology to create a virtual memorial that users can interact with.

This is the reality we are living in now. Social networking doesn't end after your heart stops beating. It simply alters itself, allowing friends to continue to feel your presence and preserve the virtual part of yourself.

Looking towards the future, there is al-

ready technology that has the ability to analyze our language and actions to decide how significant it is.

Deb Roy, an associate professor at MIT, created a cognitive machine that analyzed 90 thousand hours of home data to understand how his child learned language. As this technology grows, it is entirely possible to analyze a lifetime of data.

Adam Ostrow gave an innovative speech that questioned what death could mean if this technology developed.

Ostrow brought attention to the use of holograms to preserve memories. Ideally, a person could record themselves telling a story that an individual could engage in.

It is a morbid subject that many of us rightfully don't spend too much time thinking about, but now it seems essential that we consider the implications of our technology.

What benefit will it serve to preserve ourselves to our friends and family and as a part of history? But with all of the information we offer about ourselves online, doesn't it make sense that we would have the last words on our own page?

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PRESENTATION

Author prepares to ‘unpack’ his library

Buzz Spector
of Washington
University shares
his artwork

By Samantha McDaniel
Activities Editor

For Buzz Spector, books do not consist of words on a page, they are art.

Spector, the dean of the college and graduate school at the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis, will be talking about his artwork at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Atrium of the Tarble Arts Center.

Spector said he will be showing some of his famous pieces and talking about his history with art.

“I do a lot of work that relates to reading,” Spector said. “I will be showing images of artwork I made using books, or takes the forms of libraries.”

Michael Watts, the director of the Tarble Art Center, said books are the main focus of Spector’s artworks.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

“Spector utilizes books as both the subject and the material to make his art,” Watts said. “He makes art about books, but he uses books to make art as well.”

Spector said he is inspired by books and libraries, and likes to make his art about them.

“The experience of browsing is like looking at an artwork,” Spec-

tor said.

Spector said one of his most famous pieces of art was “Unpacking My Library.”

“Unpacking My Library” uses books from Spector’s personal library to create a shelf of books from tallest to shortest height.

“All the actual volumes from my library, every book or magazine in

my personal possession, I put onto a single shelf,” Spector said.

Spector said did not organize the books by author or subject, like libraries, but by the height.

He said by arranging the books that way, it was interesting to see what books and subjects were placed close together.

Spector said this exhibit was also interactive.

“Anyone who visited the installation was free to take a book off the shelf and read it, as long as they put it back in the right place,” Spector said.

Spector said he thinks everyone will be able to connect to his presentation.

“Everyone reads like I do, and I think it’ll be interesting to see what we all have in common,” Spector said. “Reading is a common experience of college students.”

Spector said he is excited to visit Eastern.

“I really like meeting young artist,” Spector said. “Whenever I am a visiting artist, it’s like finding even more ways in which art can be made or thought about.”

Christopher Kahler, an Eastern professor and graduate coordinator of art, said he thinks it will be a great experience for students.

“I think it will be an amazing opportunity for students to hear about a more conceptual approach to making art and following your passions,” Kahler said in an email. “He is an example of excellence in teaching, scholarship and living as a practicing artist.”

Watts said they asked Spector to visit to provide a different form of art.

“We bring in artists so our students are exposed to a different variety of art,” Watts said. “They don’t get that type of exposure otherwise.”

Kahler said he is excited for Spector’s visit.

“Buzz has long been an artist that I have admired for his extensive literary and art history knowledge- he is the rare combination of a successful artist and writer,” Kahler said in an email.

Samantha McDaniel can be reached at 581-2812 or slmcdaniel@eiu.edu.

MAPS, from page 1

A wide range of organizations are scheduled to attend including: Greek organizations, the Black Student Union, the Latin American Student Organization, EIU Pride, the Residence Hall Association and the Hunting and Fishing Club.

EIU Pride President Nico Canaday, a senior English major, said he has attended at least five Pantherpaloozas.

“Students can see the huge variety of organizations Eastern has to offer, and there is something for everyone,” Canaday said. “It is also great for RSOs to meet potential members, and we have met a lot of people there who now consistently come to meetings.”

Other organizations scheduled to attend include: the Community Gospel Choir, EIU Forensics Team, EIU Equestrian Club, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Gluten Freedom Club and DansDistinction.

“I think one thing that makes

the event so cool is that so many organizations have the chance to get out there and you can have an academic organization next to a service organization next to a social organization,” Abolt said. “Students can walk up and down the aisles and get more interactive information that they can’t get from a website.”

At least 40 more organizations have registered compared to the first Spring Pantherpalooza, Abolt said.

“I think (the increase in organizations) is a reflection of how people know more about it since this is the second year of having Spring Pantherpalooza and so we are trying to make it bigger and better,” Abolt said.

Rachel Rodgers can be reached at 581-2812 or rjrodgers@eiu.edu.



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

PRIDE members Nico Canaday, a senior English major, Olivia Biggs, a sophomore family and consumer sciences major, and Erin Williams, a senior psychology major, talk to junior psychology majors Analysis Aguilar and Britany Thomas Aug. 24 during the fall session of Pantherpalooza on the South Quad.

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MEN'S SOCCER

Picinich earns honor for academic record

Senior accounting major has 3.46 GPA, earned conference honors

Staff Report

Senior defender/midfielder Mike Picinich has been named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) All-North/Central Region First Team. The award honors those players who have performed well both on the field and in the classroom.

Picinich, a member of the Summit League First Team last season, scored three goals as a member of the Panthers, a career-high. His career goal total as a Panther ends at five goals in four seasons. Picinich also notched one assist on the year.

In the classroom, Picinich holds a 3.46 GPA and is an accounting major.

He also earned an academic honor in the 2010 season, as he was named to the 2010 Missouri Valley Conference Scholar Athlete Honorable Mention Team.

Picinich and the Panthers finished the season with a record of 7-9-1, missing the Summit League tournament. The Panthers finished the season on a three game losing streak.



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior defender/midfielder Mike Picinich jumps for a header during a Sept. 25 men's soccer game against Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis on Lakeside Field.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Good things ahead for men's basketball

By Rob Mortell
Staff Reporter

After a hot 6-2 start to the season, Eastern's men's basketball team has fallen off its pace; the Panthers now stand at 8-6 after going through their hardest stretch of the season.

Eastern suffered a four-game losing streak against some tough competition in Western Illinois, Maine, Northwestern and Murray State.

Games against Western are always tough because of the in-state rivalry.

If anyone saw the game against Maine in Lantz Arena earlier this year, they know that it is a solid team. The Panthers pulled out an overtime victory in the first game, but they fell just short losing 60-64 on the road.

Northwestern is a good team from the Big 10, meaning the talent levels on Eastern and Northwestern are vastly different. The Panthers played solid, but in the end there was 15 points separating the Ohio Valley Conference school from a marquee Big 10 school.

Normally, Murray State is one of the better teams in the OVC, but this year they boast an extremely talented team. The Racers came into Lantz Arena and trampled the Panthers 40-73. The Panthers appeared over-matched the entire game. Murray has a great chance to enter the OVC and NCAA tournament with an unblemished record.

Escaping that stretch, at 6-6, put



Rob Mortell

the Panthers in a decent position as they begin their OVC schedule.

The Panthers beat Houston Baptist and Southern Illinois-Edwardsville by double digits.

Southern Illinois-Edwardsville is new to the OVC, but Eastern did collect that important conference win.

I think the Panthers should have a good amount of success in the OVC this season. One more loss can be pretty much guaranteed as they face Murray State on the road, but the other games can be easily won.

Austin Peay was the favorite entering this season, but they have completely underachieved. The Governors are 0-3 in conference play and 3-13 overall.

Every team in the OVC is on the same level as Eastern (besides Murray State of course) and the Panthers should be able to make the conference tournament fairly easily, and then will pray for a miracle that Murray State is knocked out before the Panthers have to play them again.

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7944 or at rdmortell@eiu.edu

CONFERENCE, from page 8

Southern Illinois-Edwardsville

The newly inducted Cougars have been a surprise this season. Currently, they are tied for third with a 3-1 record.

Southern Illinois-Edwardsville is second in the OVC in three-point percentage at 38 percent, and the long range shooting has helped it get off to this fast start. Despite the good start to conference play the Cougars are still 5-8 overall.

Eastern*

The Panthers have not had much action in the OVC early on, but they have posted a 1-1 record in conference play.

Eastern sits at 8-6 overall and is third in the conference in scoring.

The Panthers are the best free-throw shooting team in the OVC at 77 percent for the team. They are also tied for first in rebounding.

Morehead State

With Kenneth Faried now a member of the Denver Nuggets, Morehead State has struggled out of the gates. At 8-9 overall, and 2-2 in conference play, the Eagles are tied for sixth in the standings.

The Eagles are tied for second best in scoring defense giving up 63.6 points per game.

Tennessee State

Tennessee State has had a tough start to the season. The Tigers are 1-3 in the OVC with all three losses coming on the road.

The Tigers are third in the con-

ference in rebounding and first in the conference in rebounding margin at +3.2.

Jacksonville State

The Gamecocks are not off to the start they would have hoped for. At 1-4 in conference play, they find themselves ninth in the standings.

Jacksonville State has posted a 6-12 record this season; however, it has not won a game on the road, yet.

Austin Peay

The Governors' fall is as big of a surprise as Murray State's dominance. After being picked to win the OVC, Austin Peay has gotten off to a terrible start.

The Governors are 3-13 overall and 0-3 in the OVC. One reason for their struggles this season is their defense ranks last in the conference, giving up 75.1 points per game.

Tennessee-Martin

Tennessee-Martin has struggled more than any team in the OVC this season. The Skyhawks are 3-15 overall and 0-5 in conference play.

Both the offense and defense have struggled. The units rank second to last in both categories. And Tennessee-Martin ranks last in scoring margin at -11.7.

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7944 or at rdmortell@eiu.edu

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Panthers survive Cougars' late push



Junior guard Kelsey Wyss goes for a layup against rival Western Illinois during a Dec. 5 women's basketball game in Lantz Arena.

DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Teams clash in first conference meeting

By Alex McNamee
Staff Reporter

The Eastern women's basketball team was in survival mode in the final four minutes of Monday's game against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, holding onto a lead and winning 73-70.

Eastern led 66-56 with four minutes remaining in the game, but gradually let Edwardsville back into the game by not finishing strong.

"It should have never got to that," Eastern head coach Brady Sallee said.

Sallee said the message to his team after the game wasn't to celebrate the win, but to reiterate to them how important it is to finish games — to put the game away, rather than hold on for dear life.

"I talked to them about it that win or lose you have to do things the right way," Sallee said.

Eastern's lead was just big enough to hold on for its second conference win after Edwardsville got to within one point with seven seconds to go in the game.

At the end of the game, the Panthers held on with clutch free throws via junior guard Ta'Kenya Nixon and junior forward Mariah King.

"Boy, we needed every one (free throw)," Sallee said.

Nixon sank two free throws late in the game, which accounted for two of her four second-half points. The Edwardsville defense held Nixon in check all game.

Sallee said Edwardsville has always double-teamed Nixon.

"It's same old, same old with them," Sallee said. "They make

someone else beat them."

For the Panthers, King and junior forward Sydney Mitchell stepped up and took control. Mitchell led all scorers with 24 points.

"She was tough," Sallee said. "She was a warrior tonight."

Mitchell scored 17 of her 24 points in the first half. King was the player who had the big second half, scoring 14 of her 16 points.

Sallee said Mitchell bounced back from the team's previous game against Xavier, when she only had four points.

Sallee said he didn't say anything to Mitchell about the Xavier game, but said that may have been a good thing.

"Sometimes when you don't say anything that may be the best medicine," Sallee said. "I trusted she knew we needed more out of her. I was not going to belabor the point."

Monday's game was the first official conference match-up between Eastern and Edwardsville, as this is the first season Edwardsville is a member of the Ohio Valley Conference.

Eastern has played Edwardsville before, just not in games, which counted in its conference record. Sallee said they have a good program.

"Not too many teams are going to come in (to Edwardsville's arena) and win," Sallee said.

The Panthers did, though, and improve their conference record to 2-0.

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7942 or admcmnamee@eiu.edu.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Murray State stands atop conference

Panthers still early in OVC schedule

By Rob Mortell
Staff Reporter

The Ohio Valley Conference schedule is finally underway for the 11 members of the Division I basketball conference.

The season is young, and the positions of each team will most likely change throughout the course of the next few months, but as of now, here are the current standings.

Murray State

The Racers are one of the hottest teams in the nation. They have posted a 16-0 record to this point in the season and have moved up to No. 15 in the Associated Press poll.

In conference play, Murray State has been just as dominating. At 4-0, the Racers are the only remaining undefeated team. They rank first in the OVC in scoring offense and defense, and their scoring margin is +15.6.

Eastern Kentucky

The Colonels have gotten out to a fast start in conference play, posting a 4-1 record. Overall, Eastern Kentucky is 10-7, but it is 6-0 at home.

Its defense ranks second in conference giving up 63.6 points per game.

Tennessee Tech

Tennessee Tech is currently riding a three-game winning streak and is 3-1 early this season in OVC play. With an 11-6 record it has shown the ability to win non-conference games.

The Golden Eagles are second in the conference in scoring, averaging 73.5 points per game. They are also undefeated at home in conference games.

Southeast Missouri State

The Redhawks find themselves in a tie for third early this season. With a 3-1 record in the OVC, the 8-8 Redhawks are the best shooting team in the conference.

They also are fourth in the OVC in scoring and are 2-0 at home against conference foes.

CONFERENCE, page 7



KAROLINA STRACK | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman guard Joey Miller drives towards the basket as an Oakland City University player tries to steal the ball during the game Wednesday evening in Lantz Arena. Eastern lost to Western Illinois University 64-48 on Saturday.